

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OMB-01 ARA-06 IO-10 SAJ-01 ACDA-05

NEA-09 SAB-01 SAM-01 AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00

SIL-01 LAB-04 CIEP-01 AF-06 SR-02 ORM-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /116 W
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R 010920Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1801

AMEMBASSY LIMA

INFO CINCPAC

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 4008

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, RP

SUBJECT: MANILA DAILY ATTACKS US ROLE VIS-A-VIS THIRD WORLD

REF: MANILA 3590

BEGIN SUMMARY: MANILA ORIENT NEWS WHICH HAS BECOME
OUTLET FOR RENEWED (AS YET MILD) ANTI-AMERICANISM HAS
BEEN BLASTING US FOR ALLEGED SABOTAGE OF THIRD WORLD
INDUSTRIALIZATION CONCEPT AT LIMA UNIDO CONFERENCE. AT
SAME TIME, LOCAL PRESS HAS BEEN FRONT-PAGING FIRST LADY'S
TRAVELS WHICH ARE INTENDED TO PROMOTE AND EXPLAIN PHILIP-
PINE FOREIGN POLICY (AND ABOVE ALL GOP POSITION ON
MINDANAO) AMONG THIRD WORLD (ESPECIALLY ARAB) LEADERS.
IT IS POSSIBLE THAT THESE TWO PUBLICITY STRAINS ARE CON-
NECTED AND THAT ORIENT NEWS EDITOR KERIMA POLOTAN (WHO
ALSO HAPPENS TO BE FIRST LADY'S BIOGRAPHER) IS GETTING
EXPLICIT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM FIRST LADY. ALTHOUGH THIRD
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WORLD LINE SO FAR BEING PROMOTED ONLY BY FIRST LADY'S

SIDE OF THE HOUSE, IT COULD GAIN GREATER GOP CURRENCY IN CONNECTION WITH GOP CONCERN AT APPARENT FAILURE OF US TO KEEP COMMITMENTS IN VIETNAM. END SUMMARY.

1. RECENT ISSUES OF ORIENT NEWS (CHINESE-ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAILY PUBLISHED BY MRS. MARCOS' BIOGRAPHER KERIMA POLOTAN WHO IS ALSO WIFE OF MALACANANG AIDE) HAVE CARRIED NEWS STORIES (MOSTLY AFP AND SOMETIMES QUOTING NCNA) HIGHLY CRITICAL OF US ROLE AT RECENT UNIDO CONFERENCE IN LIMA. GIST OF COVERAGE IS THAT US WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR KILLING INDUSTRIALIZATION PROGRAM LABORIOUSLY WORKED OUT BY THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES. US "REJECTION" COUPLED WITH ABSTENTIONS BY SEVEN OTHER INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES SIGNALLED "REFUSAL OF THE WORLD'S RICH COUNTRIES TO AID THE INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE POOR ONES" ACCORDING TO AFP STORY WHICH ORIENT NEWS OF MAR 29 CARRIED UNDER HEADLINE "3RD WORLD BID QUASHED BY US."

2. ON MAR 30 PAPER CARRIED BITTER EDITORIAL DIATRIBE ("SETBACK IN LIMA") NOTING THAT APPARENT REVERSAL REALLY A BLESSING IN DISGUISE SINCE IT PROVES THAT ALLEGED US AID AND CONCERN FOR LDC'S IS AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN A "GRAND DECEPTION" INTENDED TO DEVELOP A SENSE OF COMFORT AMONG THE NEEDY WHILE WITHHOLDING FROM THEM "THE INSTRUMENTS AND RESOURCES NEEDED FOR REAL COMPETENCE AND SELF-RELIANCE."

3. AT SAME TIME MANILA PRESS HAS ALSO BEEN PUBLICIZING MRS. MARCOS' EFFORTS TO WOO THIRD WORLD LEADERS DURING HER JUST-CONCLUDED VISIT TO MIDDLE EAST AND NEW YORK. IN MAR 31 STATEMENT ON ARRIVAL MANILA, FIRST LADY SAID HER TRIP "HAS REAFFIRMED THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE PHILIPPINES WITH THE AFRO-ASIAN REGION, THE DEVELOPING WORLD, THE THIRD WORLD." BULK OF HER STATEMENT MADE IT CLEAR HER MAIN OBJECTIVE WAS CONVEYING GOP POSITION ON MINDANAO REBELLION TO ARAB LEADERS (SADAT, BOUMEDIENNE AND KHALED) ALL OF WHOM ALLEGEDLY "UNDERSTOOD" GOP DETERMINATION TO PRESERVE PHILIPPINE TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY.

4. COMMENT: THERE MAY OF COURSE BE NO CONNECTION BETWEEN THESE APPARENTLY DIFFERENT THEMES IN GROWING PUBLICITY RE
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THIRD WORLD RELATIONS EVIDENT IN MANILA PRESS. ORIENT NEWS EDITOR KERIMA POLOTAN HAS ALWAYS BEEN EAGER TO NEEDLE THE US AND HER CURRENT COVERAGE OF VIETNAM DEVELOPMENTS IS AVIDLY PEDDLING HANOI'S LINE ON ALLEGED US AND GVN "STIMULATION" OF REFUGEE EXODUS, ETC. BUT IT IS ALSO POSSIBLE THAT EMERGING PRAISE FOR THIRD WORLD AND ANTI-AMERICAN TWIST IT HAS TAKEN IN ORIENT NEWS IS GETTING SOME EXPLICIT ENCOURAGEMENT FROM MRS. MARCOS AND HER COTERIE. IT WORTH

NOTING IN THIS RESPECT THAT J.V. CRUZ WITH INCLINATIONS
SIMILAR TO KERIMA ACCOMPANIED MRS. MARCOS ON HER LATEST
CIRCUIT AS ADVISER AND PUBLICIST. ALTHOUGH NEW EMPHASIS
ON THIRD WORLD AND INEVITABLE ASPERSIONS ON U.S. THUS FAR
APPEAR RESTRICTED MAINLY TO FIRST LADY'S SIDE OF THE HOUSE,
IT COULD GAIN GREATER GOP CURRENCY IN CONNECTION WITH
PHILIPPINE CONCERN AT APPARENT FAILURE OF US ROLE IN
VIETNAM.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, NONALIGNED NATIONS, ANTIAMERICAN, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 01 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MANILA04008
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750112-0244
From: MANILA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750494/aaaadhq.tel
Line Count: 124
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 MANILA 3590
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 APR 2003 by KelleyW0>; APPROVED <08 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MANILA DAILY ATTACKS US ROLE VIS-A-VIS THIRD WORLD
TAGS: PFOR, RP, (MARCOS, IMELDA)
To: STATE LIMA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006